

Message Text

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PAGE 01 YAOUND 03251 280709Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 L-03 OES-07 EB-08 IO-13
INR-07 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 /059 W
-----109331 280719Z /17
O R 271140Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2675
INFO USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 3251

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS, CM
SUBJ: LAW OF THE SEA MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON TO PAUL
ENGO

REF: (A) STATE 175098, (B) YAOUNDE 3246

1. I HAD A ONE-HOUR RAMBLING CONVERSATION IN WHICH PAUL
ENGO DID MOST OF THE TALKING AND I ATTEMPTED TO TAKE AS CAREFUL
NOTES AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER THAT HE NOT BE QUOTED OUT OF CONTEXT.
IT WILL TAKE ME SOME TIME TO PUT THE COMPLETE CONVERSATION
TOGETHER. HOWEVER, THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTS THE GIST OF HIS
REMARKS.

2. ENGO WAS FURNISHED THE PRESS STATEMENT BY A MEMBER OF THE
PRESS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FROM NEW YORK. HE HAS NOT SEEN
THE QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD AND HAS REQUESTED A COPY OF THOSE
REMARKS AS THE REPORTERS TRIED TO GET HIM TO COMMENT ON SOME ASPECTS
OF MATTERS RAISED. HE SAID: "I HAVE HEARD FROM THE PRESS AND RADIO
THAT HE (AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON) MADE CERTAIN COMMENTS THAT ATTACK
MY INTEGRITY AND ENGAGED IN CERTAIN IMPROPRIETIES; THAT I CHANGED
WHAT WAS AGREED UPON. IF THIS IS CORRECT, THEN I FEEL SOMEWHAT
DISAPPOINTED AS IT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE TRUTH. WE ARE
ALL VERY GOOD FRIENDS. I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR AMBASSADOR
RICHARDSON'S INTEGRITY AND I LIKE HIM PERSONALLY. I WAS THERE
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FOR TWO DAYS. IF THERE WAS SOMETHING THAT HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND,
THEN WHY DID HE NOT COME AND ASK ME? IF HE SAID THE PROCESS
ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE WAS IMPROPER, THAT IS ONE THING;
BUT IF IT IS INSINUATED THAT THE PROCESS I ADOPTED WAS IMPROPER,
THAT IS ANOTHER. THE TEXT HAD TO BE HARMONIZED, THERE WAS NO

SUCH THING AS AN AGREED-UPON TEXT. SO FAR, NO COMPROMISE

STATEMENT HAS BEEN REJECTED. IT IS MY HOPE AND PRAYER
THAT ALL DELEGATIONS REJECT THE LATEST NEGOTIATION DOCUMENT AND
COME UP WITH AN AGREED-UPON TEXT."

3. MORE COMPLETE SUMMARY OF CONVERSATION WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.
HOWEVER, HE KEPT EMPHASIZING THAT THERE WAS NO SUCH THING AS
AN AGREED-UPON TEXT AND THAT HE HIMSELF IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
PRESENT DOCUMENT. HE KEPT SAYING HE DID NOT WISH TO REACT
TO PRESS CONFERENCE UNTIL HE SAW THE TEXT OF THE QUESTION
AND ANSWER PERIOD.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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